

**MICHIGAN VFW**  
**Tentative Agenda 106<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL DEPARTMENT CONVENTION**  
**Radisson Hotel, Kalamazoo**  
**May 28 – June 1, 2025**

**ROOM**

**Wednesday, May 28**

**VFW Golf Outing**

**VFW Uniform for Convention: CofA Members in CofA Uniform; Chairmen in business casual;  
 Delegates in VFW polo shirt of choice**

**Thursday, May 29**

8:00 am – 5:00 pm	Registration (Registration closes for lunch 11:00 – 12:30)	<b>Fields</b>
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8:00 am – 4:00 pm	Program Display Tables	<b>Great Lakes</b>
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**Friday, May 30**

8:00 am – 11:00 am	Registration (Registration closes for lunch 11:00 – 12:30)	<b>Fields</b>
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8:00 am – 3:00 pm	Program Display Tables	<b>Great Lakes</b>
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**VFW Uniform for Convention: CofA Members in CofA Uniform; Chairmen in business casual;  
 Delegates in VFW polo shirt of choice**

**The Convention will be broadcast by ZOOM – non interactive**

<b>8:30 am – Noon</b>	<b>Opening Session of 2025 Department Convention</b>	<b>Prairies</b>
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Opening Ceremonies  
 Roll Call of Officers  
 Reading - adoption of Convention Rules  
 Registration / credentials report by the Adjutant / Credentials Chairman  
 Budget & Finance Committee Report - PSC Phil Patterson  
 Service Committee Report – PSC Kevin Conklin, Sidney Love  
 Camp Trotter Board Report – Board President  
 VFW Charities Board Report – Board President

**Reports of Committees – presentation of committee awards to Posts and Districts**

Americanism Director Report, Brian Martin – presentation of awards  
 Buddy Poppy Director Report, Robin Bailey – presentation of awards  
 Cancer Director Report, Mindy Taylor / John Griffith - presentation of awards  
 Community Service Director Report, Joe Tebor – presentation of Post awards  
 Day of Challenge Director Report, Robert Paavola  
 Homeless Veteran Director Report, Barbara Locke - presentation of awards

Hospital Director Report, Ben Light - presentation of awards  
Legislative Director Report, Barry Walter - presentation of awards  
National Home Director Report, James Hubbard  
Pool League Director Report, Don Smith  
Safety Director Report, Mark Drayton – presentation of awards  
VMS / Mental Health & Welfare Director Report, Doug Brinker / Daren Humes –  
Presentation of awards  
VFW Rider Group Director Report, Charlie Cline – presentation of awards  
Voice of Democracy / Patriot’s Pen / Teacher of the Year Director Report,  
Michael Martin  
Youth Activities Program Report, Larry Thayer – presentation of awards

**12:00 pm**

**Recess Convention for lunch**

**12:00 pm - 1:00 pm**

**Convention Delegates - Lunch on your own**

12:30 pm – 3:00 pm

Registration

**Fields**

**The Convention will be broadcast by ZOOM – non interactive**

**1:00 pm – 2:15 pm**

**Resume Convention Business Session –**

**Prairies**

**Resume Committee Reports**

Membership Director Report, Garrett Dickey - presentation of awards

**2:15 pm**

**Suspend order of business – Opening of Nominations**

Commander  
Sr Vice Commander  
Jr Vice Commander  
Quartermaster  
Judge Advocate  
Surgeon  
Chaplain

**3:15**

**Recess Convention Session**

**VFW Uniform for Memorial Service: CofA Members in CofA Uniform; Chairmen in business casual;  
Delegates in VFW polo shirt of choice**

**3:30 pm – 4:30 pm**

**Joint VFW / Auxiliary Memorial Service**

**Glens**

**VFW Uniform for Testimonial: CofA Members in CofA Uniform; Members in business casual;**

**6:00 pm**

**Joint Testimonial**

**Arcadia Ballroom**

**Saturday.**

8:00 am – 10:00 am                      Registration    **Fields**  
*(REGISTRATION WILL CLOSE PROMPTLY AT 10:00 am)*

8:00 am – 2:00 pm                      Program Display Tables    **Great Lakes**

**VFW Uniform for CofA: CofA Members in CofA Uniform; Chairmen in business casual;  
Delegates in VFW polo shirt of choice**

**9:00 am to 4:00 pm                      Incoming Officer / Director photos   - location to be announced**

**The Convention will be broadcast by ZOOM – non interactive**

**8:30 am                                      Resume Convention Business Session    Prairies**  
**Resume Committee Reports**

Updated Registration / Credentials Report – Adjutant, Credentials Chairman

All State Director Report, Michael Martin – presentation of awards

The below listed awardees may be seated by the Honor Guard in the reserved seating area off of the stage as soon as opening ceremonies are completed. Chairmen are responsible to ensure their awardees are seated.

Youth Activities / Scouting Director, Larry Thayer – presentation of awards  
Boy Scout of the Year  
Girl Scout of the Year  
JROTC Cadet of the Year

Safety Director, Mark Drayton – presentation of awards  
Law Enforcement of the Year  
Firefighter of the Year  
EMT / Paramedic of the Year  
Dispatcher of the Year

Community Service Awards, Joe Tebor  
VFW Employer of the Year  
VFW Member of the Year

Presentation by Guest Molly Moody

Presentations of Citations by State Commander

**10:30 am                                      ByLaws & Resolutions Director Report, Kevin Conklin**  
**(Action as required by Convention delegates)**

**12:00 pm                                      Recess Convention Session for lunch**

**12:00 – 1:30 pm                      Past State Commanders / Past State Presidents Luncheon**  
**(by invitation)**

<b>12:00 – 1:30 pm</b>	<b>Convention Delegates - Lunch on your own</b>	
	<b>The Convention will be broadcast by ZOOM – non interactive</b>	
<b>1:30 pm</b>	<b>Resume Convention Business Session –</b>	<b>Prairies</b>
	<b>Resume Committee Reports</b>	
	Final Registration / Credentials Report – Adjutant, Credential Chairman	
	<b>Reopening of Nominations – Presentation of Candidates</b>	
	<b>Recess Convention District Caucuses – 30 minutes</b>	
	<b>Resume Convention</b>	
	<b>Election of Officers</b>	
	Good of the Order – Comments by distinguished guests	
	National candidates	
	VFW National Council Member. PSC Kevin Conklin	
	VFW National Representative,	
	<b>Closing Ceremonies</b>	
	<b>Following Closing Ceremonies incoming CofA members will change into CofA uniform for Installation of Officers</b>	
	<b>Joint VFW / Auxiliary Installation of Officers</b>	
	<b>2025 - 26 CofA Meeting promptly after Installation</b>	
		<b>Prairies</b>
<b>6:30 pm – 10:00 pm</b>	<b>Celebration with Commander Reinold Yahnka and Department President Deb Scheetz at Hotel.</b>	
		<b>Kalamazoo 1</b>
<b><u>Sunday</u></b>	<b>DRIVE HOME SAFE</b>	

